

**SPECIFICATION AMENDMENT**

Please amend the paragraph on page 1, line 6 as follows:

“US 5,138,235 discloses a starting and operating circuit for an arc discharge lamp. The circuit comprises a DC power supply means coupled to AC input terminals, oscillator means coupled to said DC power supply to receive a DC voltage, oscillator starting means and load means coupled to the output of the oscillator and including an inductor in series with the discharge lamp and a capacitor in parallel to the lamp. Upon switching on an AC power supply to the circuit the capacitor has a low impedance, an initial current through the inductor is high and a voltage across filamentary electrodes at ends of the lamp is high. With said latter voltage being sufficient high the lamp will ignite. Then the impedance of the load will decrease, which is reflected to the operation of the oscillator such that its oscillation frequency decreases from an ignition frequency to a lower normal operating frequency. In one example the ignition frequency is 46 kHz and the normal operating frequency is 25 kHz (according to electronic file of said document). This means a ratio between those frequencies is  $[[1,84]]$  1.84.”

Please amend the paragraph on page 2, line 27 as follows:

“Said object is accomplished in one aspect of the invention by providing a high frequency driver for a gas discharge lamp, which is in series with an inductor and which has a capacitor connected in parallel to it, comprising an oscillator, which has DC input terminals for connecting to a DC source and AC output terminals for connecting to a load comprising the lamp, the inductor and the capacitor, the oscillator oscillating at a first high frequency during ignition of the lamp and the oscillator oscillating at a second high frequency during normal operation of the lamp after its ignition, with the first frequency being higher than the second frequency by a ratio of at least  $[[2,2]]$  2.2.”

Please amend the paragraph on page 5, line 14 as follows:

“It is widely believed that increasing the frequency allows to reduce the values of such an inductor and of capacitors. An explicit statement of this can be found in US-[[5,538,243]] 5,438,243, column 4 lines 33-35.”

Please amend the paragraph on page 6, line 3 as follows:

“It is to be noted that the temperature T indicated in Table I is a temperature rise above ambient temperature of the driver circuit. The inventors considered that a temperature rise of inductor 3 about 30°C would be acceptable. This means that the ratio  $R=f_{ig}/f_{op}$  of the ignition frequency and the normal operating frequency should be about [[2,2]] 2.2 or greater.”

Please amend the paragraph on page 8, line 5 as follows:

“The inventors found that the ratio  $R = f_{ig}/f_{op}$  is preferably in a range between [[2,2]] 2.2 and 7. More preferably the ratio is about 5.”

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

“A high frequency driver for a gas discharge lamp is supplied with a DC voltage. The driver converts the input DC voltage to an AC voltage and supplies the AC voltage to a load, which comprises a gas discharge lamp, an inductor connected in series with the lamp and a capacitor connected in parallel to the lamp. The AC voltage has a first high frequency during ignition of the lamp and a second high frequency during normal operation of the lamp after its ignition. The first frequency is higher than the second frequency by a ratio of at least [[2,2]] 2.2. By modulating the frequency of the AC voltage the ratio can be increased while still complying with EMI and RFI requirements.”